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| **Shady habitats: working with the design industry and end users to create shaded, active and connected community spaces in Queensland, Australia** |
| **Setting/problem**The WHO calls for cities and communities in the Western Pacific Region to embrace a ‘healthy cities’ approach to help improve health and promote equity and sustainable urban development. This includes a recommendation for health agencies to work broadly with urban planners, designers and engineers to create community environments which promote health and sustainable development (WHO, 2016). Well planned and designed environments where Queenslanders live, work, play and learn need to be conducive to a range of healthy actions including sun protection, physical activity and community connectedness. There is a strong body of research showing the positive effects of well designed, effective shade on reducing ultraviolet radiation exposure and therefore reducing skin cancer risk. There is a growing, but very limited body of evidence on how to address the need for improved design of shade in public spaces to achieve effective protection from ultraviolet radiation exposure.**Intervention**This research forms one part of the broad Cool and Covered – designing out skin cancer in Australia program. It aims to build the capacity of the design industry to incorporate well-designed shade in Queensland community spaces providing effective reduction in ultraviolet radiation exposure whilst encouraging physical activity and community connectivity. It incorporates short and long term data collection to measure the barriers and facilitators for effective shade planning, design and construction experienced by both the design industry and end user groups such as schools. It works with partners to incorporate tools for monitoring for ultraviolet radiation exposure.**Outcomes**This presentation will discuss learnings and opportunities identified from working with the design industry; effectively working with partners to integrate opportunities for health planning into usual practice of the design industry; plus barriers and facilitators experienced by designers in developing healthy, shaded, urban habitats for communities.**Implications**Findings from this work will inform broader work with the design industry across Queensland to create healthy, active and connected community spaces combined with short, medium and long term measures to identify impacts on health outcomes. **Preferred presentation format**Oral |